

\*\*\*\*\*December 28, 2020\*\*\*\*\*

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting electronically on Monday, December 28, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Charles Poss  
Vice Mayor Susannah Murdock  
Councilmember Vicki Anderson  
Councilmember Andrew Gardner  
Councilmember Dan Landrum

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal  
Town Attorney Harry Cash  
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Poss led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

### Citizen Comments

Mayor Poss asked if there were any requests to address the Council.

There being no requests, the meeting resumed.

### Discussion

- a. Update on Old Town Sidewalk Project. Public Works Director, Loretta Hopper, explained that in November the Town received an amended contract from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) with a new completion date of March 2023. In addition, she said TDOT has agreed to combine the grant funds from 2 other sidewalk projects (Town Hall sidewalks and Taft Hwy. bike/pedestrian path) which will not be possible at this time.

Ms. Hopper said while the Town's engineer, ASA Engineering, was closed due to the pandemic, they are now back working on the project. Town Manager, Boyd Veal, explained the long delay in starting this project has resulted in an increase to the scope of work needed by ASA and this has resulted in a request to increase the amount of the engineering contract.

Council had discussions regarding how the long delays (original TDOT contract signed in 2015) have increased the total project costs, without a corresponding increase in funding. Any costs above the original award will be borne 100% by the Town. Councilmember Landrum expressed concern that the project might be too costly even with TDOT funding a portion. Council discussed the fact that the original split with TDOT was 80/10. However, with the increased costs, Mr. Veal estimated the new split could be 60/40, even with the additional funding from the other projects.

- b. Board, Commissions, Committees Appointments. Mr. Veal said that he has spoken with the Librarian, Karen Glendenning, who asked the Council to delay any appointments to the Library Board. Council discussed the applicants for each of the Boards/Commissions and asked to place Resolutions for these appointments for the next scheduled meeting.
- c. Committee Liaison Guidelines. Council discussed the e-mail they received from the Town Attorney, Harry Cash. Councilmember Landrum said he would like to have a copy of the e-mail sent by Elizabeth Baker so that he can understand the context of where Mayor Poss's presentation at the last meeting came from. Mayor Poss said he would talk to Ms. Baker and ask her to forward it.

### **Manager's Report**

Mr. Veal reported that the Wildridge project is moving into the next phase of a multi-year program. However, delayed construction has put them outside of the original agreed upon time frame. He explained that the developer will bring the project before the Planning Commission.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that the bank signature cards need to be signed. He asked the Council members to e-mail him their availability to come by Town Hall to sign these documents.

### **Other Business**

- a. Communications from the Mayor/Council. After some discussion, Council determined not to receive information about records requests unless staff deemed it necessary.
- b. Reports from Committees or Boards. None
- c. Other. None

### **Tentative Agenda**

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the January 11, 2021 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Charles Poss, Mayor



Recorder